AHMED) : (a) and (b) The platform wise number of bidders who participated and purchased in Andhra auctions as on 13-3-1993 are as follows :—

Name of the Platform	No. of bidders participated	Name of bidders purchased
Bhadrachalam-I	13	5
Bhadrachalam-II	13	6
Nandigama	15	7
Kanchikacherla	16	6
Guntur	16	7
Rangampet	11	5
Thorredu	15	6
Kapavaram	10	6
Devarapalli	19	10
Jangareddigudem	19	8
Vellampalli	22	11
Ongole-I	21	9
Podili	33	15
Ongole-II	21	12
Tangutur-I	24	5
Tangutur-II	23	11
Kandukur	23	10
Kaligiri	23	12
D. C. Palli	22	11
Koyyolagudem	20	8
Chilakaluripet	14	8

(c) Some of the reasons attributed to the passive participation of the bidders are :—

—wants of adequate preparatory gap for buyers between closure of Karnataka auctions and commencement of Andhra auctions.

—Domestic cigerette Manufacturers not specifying their requirement.

— Delay and uncertainty in opening of Letters of Credit by Russia under the 1992 Trade Protocol for 10,000 MT of tobacco.

— Lack of clear indications from Russia about their requirement of black soil tobacco.

—inadequate orders from other major importers.

— Excess production of tobacco over the authorised quantity in Andhra Pradesh which has its impact on trader psychology and buying ferver.

(d) Steps taken to revive active buyer participation include release of the Technical Credit to Russia, meetings with exporters and domestic cigarette manufacturers, sending of trade delegation to Russia etc.

Functioning of Tobacco Auction Platform

3320. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) when are the tobacco auction platforms opened;

(b) what is the quantity sold;

(c) what is the number of bales offered and how many are rejected for want of bidders; and

(d) what is the average price for different grades ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) This year, in Andhra Pradesh, tobacco auction sales started on 27-2-93 in three auction platforms, and on 4-3-93 in the remaining 18 auction platforms.

(b) The quantity sold as on 12-3-93 was around 2.16 M.kgs.

(c) 18,433 bales were offered for sale, as on 12-3-93. Out of this 5,733 bales were made "No Bid" since the bales did not attract reasonable prices.

(d) The average prices for different grades of tobacco as on 12-3-93 are given below :—

Plant Position Grades :

Grade	Av. Price	Grade	Av. Price
P 1L	44.99	X 4J	28.90
P 2L	43.37	X 5J	—
P 3L	37.35	L 1L	45.03
P 4L	31.43	L 2L	43.28
P 5L	28.75	L 3L	42.57
P 20	44.00	L 4L	30.81
P 2J	26.42	L 5L	—
P 3J	24.83	L 10	45.76
P 4J	26.73	L 20	45.00
X 1L	45.38	L 30	46.00
X 2L	44.17	L 40	29.00
X 3L	40.76	L 50	—
X 4L	33.12	L 1J	—
X 5L	24.87	L 2J	—
X 20	44.76	L 3J	26.50
X 30	40.49	L 4J	—
X 40	36.39	L 5J	—
X 1J	36.56	T 2L	46.00
X 2J	36.73	T 3L	36.22
X 3J	36.08		
Farm Grades :			
F 1	31.08	F 6	27.95
F 2	30.02	F 7	19.36
F 3	26.94	F 8	14.34
F 4	21.40	F 9	—
F 5	16.36	F 10	17.35

Items on Protocol agreement with Russia for Export

3321. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total quantity of different items that are on protocol agreement for export to Russia during the year 1992-93;

(b) what is the actual amount contracted;

(c) what is the actual quantity of each item shipped so far;

(d) what are the reasons for shortfall; and

(e) what steps are being taken to overcome this shortfall ?